"JOKERS" HID

Actual Raising of Duties Effected by Payne Bill

COTTON AND WOOL SCHEDULE

Doth Indefensible, and President Taft Knew It-Suppression of Facts by the Tariff Board-Statistics Employed to Mislead the Public.

LY ROBERT KENNETH MACLEA. [Fermerly consulting expert of the tariff board.]

New York, Aug.-On not a single the of the ninety-five all cotton samples of inbric taken as the basis of the tariff board's investigations of the cotton schedule was there an actual reduction of the tariff by the Payne-Aldrich law.

The samples were selected with of the board's experts, indorsed by the leading jobbers of the United States as being representative of all classes of fabric in use in this country, each tample being chosen because it was typical of the most used material of its particular weave or class. Ninetyfive all cotton and five silk and cotton samples comprise the 100 that appear in the tariff board's cotton report.

Forty-seven of the ninety-five in the all cotton class pay 33.60 per cent higher duties under the Payne-Aldrich than they did under the Dingley

Payne-Aldrich "Jokers." Of these forty-seven classe of material on which the tariff was increased nine are the fancy weaves made in three or four New England mills commonly grouped as the "Lippitt-McColl interests." This is the clique of New England manufacturer-politicians who were permitted by Senator Nelson W. Aldrich to write the cotton schedule to suit themselves.

Of the nine Lippitt-McColl fabrics the Payne-Aldrich law facked up the average duty from 36.57 to 60.33 per cent. In other words, the promised "revision downward" on these goods was really a revision upward amounting to 64.97 per cent of the Dingley

The remaining thirty-eight classes of all cotton fabrics on which the duty was increased were not generally the product of the favored New England ring. Under the Dingley law these thirty-eight fabrics were assessed an average duty of 35.36 per cent. Under the Payne-Aldrich law they phy 44.58 per cent.-a revision upward equal to 26.07 per cent. of the former rate as compared with 64.97 per cent. increase on the manufactures of the favored

On just three among the 100 samples

duty. On these three samples the reduction averaged 5.65 per cent on former duty-a reduction from 116.70 cent under the Dingley law to 110.44 per cent under the Payne-Al-drich law. On one of the silk and cotton samples there was an increase nting to 21.98 per cent. The fifth of the silk and cotton samples was left

On the forty-five of the ninety-five all cotton samples there was no change in duty.

On the three remaining samples (completing the total of 100) no comparison is made because of apparent lack of authentic foreign prices.

Mr. Taft Was Mistaken. And still President Taft said in his speech at Boston, April 25 last:

"It (the Payne-Aldrich bill) was a vastly better bill than the Dingley bill. If I had refused to sign the Payne bill it would have maintained the Dingley bill with higher rates than the Payne bill."

When Mr. Taft made this statement he must have known that it was untrue. As for the wool schedule, he knew that the rates were not higher in the Dingley law than in the Payne-Aldrich law, for right after signing great care by the combined judgment | the latter bill did he not denounce its wool rates as "indefensible?" And as for the cotton rates of the Payne bill, he knew they were just as "in defensible" as the wool rates, for a the time he made this statement in Boston he had the tariff board's report on cotton before him.

It is true that the cotton report o he tariff board did not make this in formation available at a glance to Mr Taft or to congress or to the public The tariff board carefully avoided giv ing this information in a getatable. understandable form.

Suppressed the Answer.

"Was the tariff raised or lowered? has been an insistent question ever since the Payne-Aldrich law was en acted three years ago. The tariff board a cided answering it.

In making my official report to the board I submitted a table that did inswer this question in respect to each one, excepting three, of the 100 cloth samples around which our months of investigation centered. After much sidestepping and discussion this table vas expurgated and published in its masculated form. The board's excuse ms that it was not its duty to answer he question; congress could make its

Benefit Only to Privilege.

From every point of view of the arlS grafter it is no doubt highly dedrable that such facts, staggering as hey are to the dishonest pretensions that the cotton tariff was really lowerod, should be buried as deeply as posalble in a mass of unexplained statisties. But it is to the advantage of every honest manufacturer and merchant who is seeking stability in business and fair opportunity to make a reasonable profit that the truth should be made known. Just such policies of official evasion and suppression have was there a decrease in duty. These made possible in the past the jugging were the silk and cotton fabrics (silk of tariff legislation by and in behalf of mills) that pay more than 100 per cent. the privileged few.-New York World.

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oreign data as were obtained were in

some cases suppressed and in others were inadequate for honest comparison, al-

FACTS SUPPRESSED AND ISSUES **EVADED** BY TAFT TARIFF BOARD

By ROBERT KENNETH MACLEA.

Formerly Consulting Expert of the Tariff Board.

Under the pressure of promise to fight chicanery and fraud in tariff legislation, I deem it a public duty not to withhold the facts in my possession relative to the investigation of the cotton manufacturing industry. Regretful that my experience compelled to present the following indictment:

SUPPRES-

in its report on manu-factures of cotton (Schedule I) has sup-pressed findings of vital mportance to the cot ton industry, to the pub lic and to the government, but inimica to the special privileges of a few New

That the tariff board

England manufacturers who were per-mitted by Senator Aldrich to write the cotton schedule to suit themselves.

PERVER-SION

That the tariff board has perverted other facts, thereby avoiding exposure of tariff injustices that have benefit ed the few at the expense of the many man

111. That the tariff board has not, as stated by President Taft to congress, drawn any conclusions that would "be valuable in advising the congress and the people * * of the changes that ought to be made to

EVASION

The board did not attempt to draw conclusions, "scientific" or otherwise, from its "scientifically" collected data, but sidestepped that responsibility by arguing that such deductions as its data justified were not called for under the specifications of its employment.

That the tariff board's report was ar-

ranged so as to be incomprehensible to either legislators or laymen; that tables EMASCU-LATION

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EMASCU-LATION

EMASCU-If not suppressed, and that a congressman would require the services of a statistician and a clerk six months to make head or tail of the jumble of data presented as a basis for intelligent tariff revision.

That the tariff board avoided altograther in-vestigating certain phases of tariff graft hidden in "jokens" of the Payne-Aldrich law.

Dog Policeman Travels Beat.

An Irish terrier named Jerry, which

Ministerial Economy. has developed a wonderful capacity for police work, is now stationed at was a mystery to economical parish-Surbiton, England. The terrier, owned by a sergeant of the Metropolitan loners how the minister could afford to contribute so liberally to the church's social affairs, but another knows all the "beats" in the

district, and always accompanies his master when making patrol by cycle. Jerry's "speciality" is in the capturing of stray dogs. These he lures in a friendly manner to the police station, and then mounts guard at the gate until the derelict receives official attention.

Weather Report.

Meteorological report of Voluntary Observer at Ironton, Iron county, Mo., for the week ending Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1912:

Days of Week.

Wednesday 18 69 38 49 55 49 Thursday 19 75 Saturday Sunday. Monday Tuesday 24 78

Note-The precipitation includes rain, hail, sleet and melted snow and is recorded in inches and hundredths. Ten inches of snow equal one inch of rain. "T" indicates

trace of precipitation. W. H. DELANO, Observer.

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That the tariff board betrayed the con-

fidence of American manufacturers by publishing data that should have been held for confidential informa-Daily Trains 7 tion of legislators; that

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B. H. PAYNE,

UNFAIR competitors were given thereby valuable trade socrets, while the for-eign manufacturers divulged nothing of

similar character or importance, VIII. That the tariff board's treatment of economic questions vitally affect-ing the relation of the

DISINGEN-

tariff to the prices ex-acted from consumers was disingenuous and

IX. That the tariff board has proved not to be the "nonpartisan" and scientific in-strument promised by President Taft; that its members displayed inexperience in business, incompetence and extrava

in business, incompetence and extravagance. I have been forced reluctantly
after a year's intimate association to accept the opinion that the tariff board has
been nothing more than
an effective cog in a
"standpat" political machine; that some of the
men who clamored most
loudly for a tariff board
and some of the men

and some of the me appointed thereto worked all the tim appointed thereto worked all the time complacently in the knowledge that the creation of the board was a scheme to prevent genuine tariff reform as long as possible by "summing the cards and de-laying the game," a charge frequently made, but which I for a long time dis-credited.

That such facts as the tariff board ha CONVICTING

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CONVICTSumer has been robbed outraccountly as a consequence of excessive duties and that the groits have not gone into the peckets of the inherer to "maintain an American standars of living"

-From New York World

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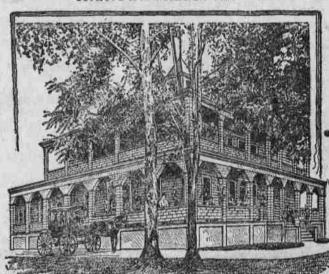
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